## HIT Work Plan

I understand that I am to help you by becoming the "point person" for Telehealth and the THR for the Dept. for internal coordination and external contacts as far as the ARRA goes. This of course will need close cooperation with Andy Corbin and Ron Pearson, and probably input from our programs, such as Lura, Sheree and Renee, and maybe others as the program becomes more defined. This group will keep you and Lee closely informed as to our intentions and activities, to make sure there is complete coordination among the other aspects of ARRA and the health Dept, and knowing that all projects will require the Governors sign off.

We will also coordinate with the private entities as regards Telehealth and HIE (esp. the THR) to help implement the vision of how to use this opportunity to build the infrastructure, implement and train our providers in these two concepts. We anticipate our Telehealth Steering committee will be one group, but that there will be a second on the HIE as the players don't completely overlap. Our vision is to be as inclusive as possible including the IHS, FQHC's, SNF's, Hospitals, payers, Lab and diagnostic centers, as well as providers in our HIE. Our initial intent is to expand our current plans, rather than initiate brand new programs. We will be looking at funding sources from Agriculture, Commerce and HHS, as well as the new budget to see how to most effectively leverage these funds.

I will have Larry Biggio of the WYHIO forward the names of their grant writers to you and you will make the final selection of the grant writer who will work with us, and they will be paid by the WDH. In the Grant(s) submitted we will be sure to include funding for enough positions to ensure the programs will be properly implemented and reported upon, out of the administrative funds within the grant. These are not to be State positions, but either AWEC positions or put out for bid. I will convene in the next 10 days or less the internal WDH workgroup on these topics as soon as I have any further input from you on membership you would like to see. Our next Telehealth steering committee is already set for March 11 at 3 pm. I expect the HIE workgroup will meet in the following week. These three groups will spend the next month formulating their ideas, and starting to work with the Grant writer(s) needed. We anticipate we have at most 90 days to have these grants ready for submission, knowing we will need the Governor to sign off prior to submission, we would like them finalized by 60 days. If there is anything I have left out or misunderstood please let me know. I am really excited with the opportunity to move Wyoming closer to our vision of patient centered, efficient, totally integrated Health Care.

James Bush Medicaid Medical Director